

Next GARS meeting on July 13 @ 7:00 p.m.
Linux and Ham Radio

The GArzette

The official newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society —
July 2010 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 19, Issue 7

July Meeting will be held at our regular meeting location!

Robert Tyler, KF4VBR will be on hand to go over how you can get more and pay less by using Linux for the Ham Shack. Robert has been a Linux follower for over 15 years. His experience is in both the business world and Amateur Radio. This will be a great opportunity to ask questions and see a demonstration of "Linux in the Shack".

And, we'll have a recap of our Field Day Activities!

TechFest 2011

TechFest is January 8, 2011. This GARS winter hamfest is one of the fastest growing in the south. We are currently active persuing clubs and groups of hams to display their favorite mode of operation.. Your suggestions appreciated.



June meeting at Sweetwater Park
Everyone listening to FD Plans.

Field Day 2010 with GARS

What a fun event! All of our concerns about a new Field Day site were quickly put aside when we discovered at about 10:30, that most everything was in place. That 500ft + stretch with 3 dipoles was hanging over the parking lot in less time that it would have taken to install them at the old park. Thanks David, KA4KKF and crew for another great GARS event.

Field Day Recap ...Norm, WA4ZXV

GARS moved to a new site after about 15 years. We were worried about antenna placement, parking, interstation interference, insects, rain, RV parking, folks finding us, and band condntions.

We had the largest turn out in recent years. I hate to give a number without actually seeing the logs, but I believe we'll report over 150. About 60 were members. About 35 were Gwinnett ARES members (a lot of overlap).

Although most of the trees were to one side of the pavilion, we managed well. There was one pull that held three 20 meter dipoles. SSB, PSK and CW. The run was well over 500 ft from end to end and ran across the parking lot. We operated all three modes and had less trouble than ever. On PSK, some signals were obviously blocked. But we worked all three. 10 had a beam at about 40 ft on military style poles. And 6 was up about 30ft on the same type poles. We also had a 20m vertical from hamstick with ground radials up about 25 ft for the PSK station. Don't really know which was better the dipole or the vertical. Seems they both served us well. 80, 40ssb, 40cw and 15ssb were dipoles in the trees behind the pavilion. Our satellite operation was on the patio. We used a lot of coax, but it worked.

Continued
on 3

1. Ice cream was served before the meeting started
2. Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, President, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.
3. Introductions of first time visitors and others present were made.
4. Business:
 - a. Treasurer's Report – Hal Collier, W4IGE, reported the following:
 - i. CD balance \$6201.27
 - ii. Money Market balance \$1987.40
 - iii. Checking Account balance \$5,519.75
 - iv. Total \$13,708.42
 - v. Field Day T-shirts can be ordered on the GARS.org website until 6/10.
5. Committee Reports:
 - a. Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN, presented the following applications for membership:
 - i. Scott Brown, KD4YDD, technician class.
 - b. VE Team Report – Dave Bruse, W4DTR, reported the following:
 - i. There will be a VE session at Field Day. There will be no VE session on Father's Day.
6. Break
7. David Adcock, KA4KKF, gave a presentation on Moxon antennas and talked about Field Day.
8. Prize drawing.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.



This space for **your** photo
with caption.

The pavilion was new and setup in a V. The center was community area for antenna building, VE exams, and meals. The wings were for operating. On the large concrete patio, we set up a 10x20 tent for hospitality. The antenna build was for a j-pole or Moxon. There were about 20 folks watching, I don't know how many they built. The VE session tested 10. We had a D-STAR station setup mostly to show and answer questions.

Dreamland BBQ catered the Saturday evening meal. We bought for 70 and had very little left over.

There was a short period around dinner time when there was some lightning, so we shut down and disconnected. But it passed!

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You

If you are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities and have an interest in radio technology, Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the St. Marguerite D'Youville Catholic Church, 85 Gloster Rd. NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044.
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month. We enjoy:
 - o Camping
 - o Hiking
 - o Horse Back Riding
 - o Shooting Sports
- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of amateur radio.
- For more information, either show up at our next meeting or contact:
Steve Back, WB2OGY, Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman
 - o Phone: 770-712-9069
 - o Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org
- Jeff Lee, AF4JL, Venture Crew 73 Advisor
 - o Phone: 678-475-3165
 - o Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org

The park folks were great about allowing us to stay overnight. We probably had 20 folks there at 2:00am. Some slept in chairs, some in the RVs. Bands that were open were operated all night.

Breakfast was Burritos.

Observations: We didn't call cq often enough, long enough.

I missed having a GOTA station, but the points are slim and we still handed out several First Contact certificates by just letting them sit with an operator and operate. Actually scheduling operators has been tough. Having operators isn't a real problem, we just can't get a good schedule. This year we left it up to the band captains. In the past we've had web forms. We had plenty operators, just not a good schedule. Publicity was probably better than past years. We saw several hams from the area that I didn't recognize. There were several folks just wanting to know what it was about.

Thanks to all the GARS crew for making this a very successful and fun Field Day!!



A note from the President

Just a short note this month. I have been behind for two weeks mostly because of Field Day. Last week it was all about getting ready for Field Day. This week, it has been all about recovering from and catching up on things I did not get done over the weekend because of Field Day. Am I complaining? Heck no! It was worth every minute, and every bit of sweat.

Speaking of sweat, GARS (along with Gwinnett ARES) had a spectacular Field Day this year, albeit hot. The new location really worked well. My hat is off to our Field Day chairman, David Adcock KA4KKF, and to all the other folks who helped make our Field Day a reality. Everything worked so well, like a well oiled machine. What is even more impressive is how BIG we do Field Day, and yet we still pull it off so well. A large number of people worked very hard to make it happen, there are just too many to mention. I hope you know who you are and how much we appreciate all of your efforts.

One person worth special mention is Dead-eyed “Pneumatic Norm” WA4ZXV. I hope he does not mind the nickname I gave him! With his air powered tennis ball launcher getting the leaders in the top of the trees with seeming ease, he made putting up all of the wire antennas a speedy operation. The three 20m antennas end to end on a single support line was an impressive example that spanned the entire width of the parking lot.

We have a great program about Linux in the hamshack at this month’s meeting at the church. I am looking forward to the program and hope you will all join us there on the 13th.

73,
Kyle
W4KDA



On the World Wide Web...

ND4V, Mike

My Heart is beatin' Morse Code – yep it is my favorite mode.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH_3F1EqFxl&feature=related

Sending with a straight key (a cheesy Army training film)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQj74Y2H8xQ&feature=related>

In the film, Sarge talks a lot about spacing but he never gets down to what it should be.

The spacing is based on a 1:3 ratio. That is a dah is three times the length of a dit.

The space between two elements in a letter is one dit. The space between two letters is three dits. The space between two words is equal to seven dits. (Many learned this spacing as two dahs.)

The word PARIS is the standard for determining CW code speed. Each dit is one element, each dah is three elements, intra-character spacing is one element, inter-character spacing is three elements and inter-word spacing is seven elements. The word PARIS is exactly 50 elements.

Note that after each dit/dah of the letter P -- one element spacing represented by an asterisk is used. At the end of the letter the spacing is lengthened to 3 asterisks.

After the last dit of P is sent, 3 elements are added (Inter-Character). After the word PARIS - 7 elements are used.

Thus:

$P = \text{di da da di} = 1 * 3 * 3 * 1 (***) = 14 \text{ elements}$

$A = \text{di da} = 1 * 3 (***) = 8 \text{ elements}$

$R = \text{di da di} = 1 * 3 * 1 (***) = 10 \text{ elements}$

$I = \text{di di} = 1 * 1 (***) = 6 \text{ elements}$

$S = \text{di di di} = 1 * 1 * 1 [*****] = 12 \text{ elements}$

Total = 50 elements (the standard for one word)

Send Paris 5 times in one minute and you have a perfect 5 wpm.

Twenty words per minute is about all a good straight key operator can maintain. Above that we need some mechanical or electronic assistance – say a bug or keyer.

A bug sends the dits automatically but you have to make the dahs. Note that the dits are normally made with the thumb. Take a look at the two bugs shown. Any lefties out there?

Here's a good link that shows how to adjust a bug.

How to Adjust your Vibroplex Bug

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qekmyx31Uxw>



GARS officers and committee chairs

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA
President

Earl Whatley, AF4FG
Vice President

Hal Collier, W4IGE
Secretary

Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC
Treasurer
Apparel Manager

Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO
Program Manager

Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
Membership Chairman

David Adcock, KA4KKF
Webmaster
Field Day Chairman

Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ
Public Information Officer

Norm Sckhlar, WA4ZXV
TechFest Chairman

Jim Massara, N2EST
GARzette Editor

Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
W4GR Trustee

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM
Repeater Chairman

Mike Weathers, ND4V
WAS-Checker

Joel Barrett, W4JOL
Net Manager

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI
Technical Advisor

Dave Bruse, W4DTR
VE Team

GARS communication system

70 Cm Repeater
444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS
144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

6 Meter Repeater
53.110 (-1 MHz)
82.5 PL Tone

D-Star
WD4STR
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)
440.550 + (5 MHz)

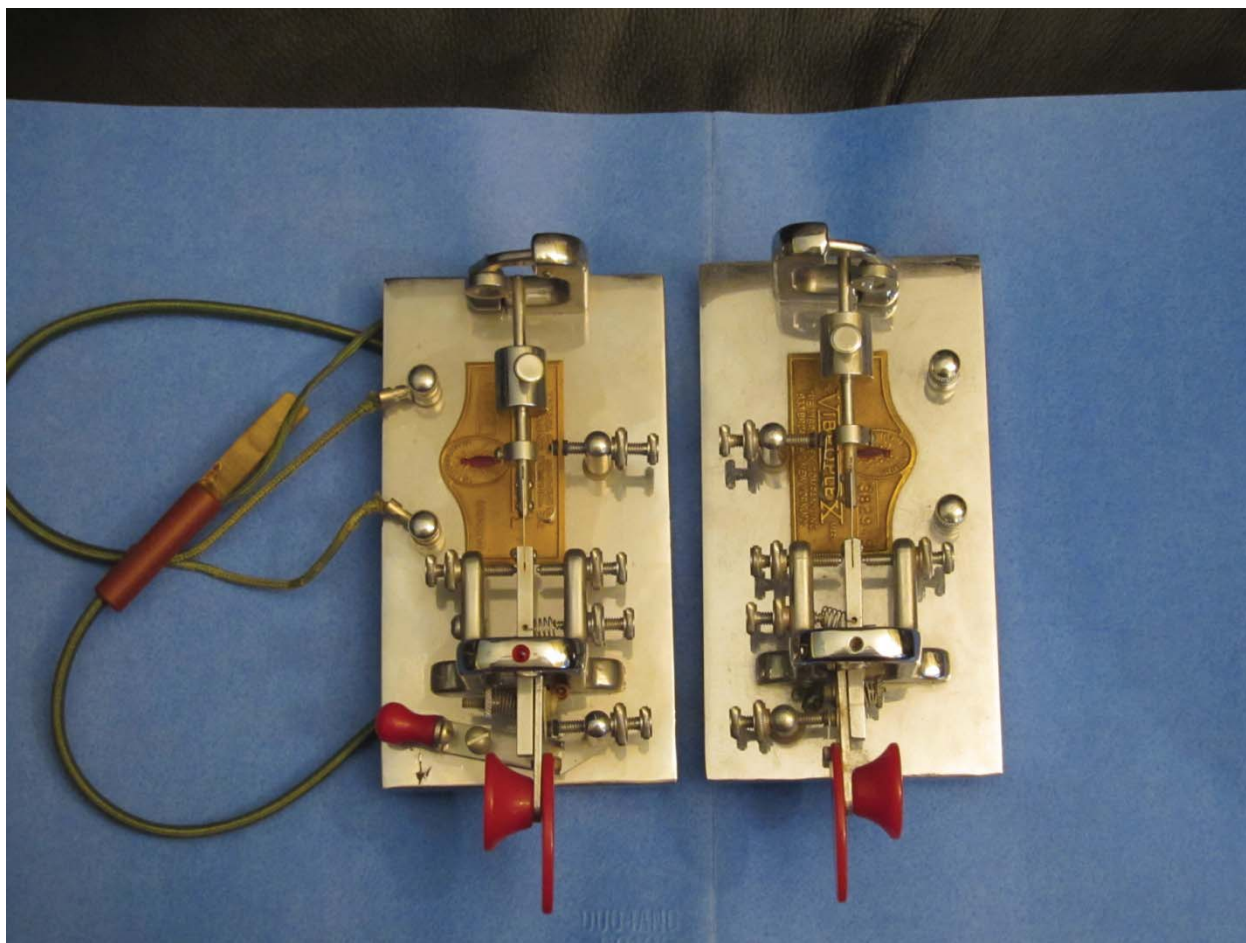
2 Meter Repeater
147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites

This space for **your** short story!



The Single lever paddle:

An electronic keyer makes both the dits and dahs automatically. The first commercial keyer that I recall was the W9TO keyer that was built by Hallicrafters. It featured self completing elements. A slight touch of the dah paddle and the keyer sent a full dah.

The Vibrokeyer single lever paddle is easy to learn. Close the contacts with your thumb and it sends dits; push the paddle to the other side with your finger and it makes dahs. Only one or the other though.

Moving up to iambic

Iambic is done with a two lever paddle. Closing both contacts at once causes alternating dits and dahs. If you're sending a series of dahs and bump the dit paddle, a dit is inserted.

Here is link for a demo. However note this guy sends the dits with the right paddle, which is backwards from the way you'd do it if you were graduating from a bug. But as he says, if you're just learning it, doesn't really matter.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_uVQavmXC&feature=related

What a great spot for your short ham radio note!

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule.

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org.

First Saturday, Even Months 9 a.m.

EOC Building
Butch Nitz, AF4FS
(770) 968-8780

First Wednesday 7 p.m.

ARRL/VEC
Roberts School
4681 School Street, Acworth
Jodi Escher AG4BK
(770) 387-1591

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC
8:30 a.m.
Stone Mountain Methodist
Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Varone, W4ETN
(770) 978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9 a.m.
Marietta First United Meth.
Church
Room 305,
56 Whitlock Ave.
Marietta
David Still, WB4RRD
(707)973-2566

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7 p.m.
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Rd.
Douglasville

We had six VEs and four applicants on April 18.

VEs present included Frank Sauciunas, KF4TQV; David Bruse, W4DTR; Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN; John Kludt, K7SYS; Royce Stovall, KD4EXY; and Brian Page, N4TRB.

Test results: one new Technician, two upgrades to General, one upgrade to Extra.

These tests are given at 3:00 p.m. on the third Sunday of every month except December.

If you want to take a test, you should bring a photo ID (e.g. driver's license, student ID, etc.), your original license (if you have one) and a copy of the license, as well as original CSCE and copy for prior elements passed. Minors must have two forms of ID and a Social Security number. Be sure to bring a pen and pencil with eraser, a calculator with its memory cleared, and an exam fee of \$14 cash (checks are not accepted). Walk-ins are welcome. No pre-registration is required.

73,
Frank Sauciunas, KF4TQV
Webmaster: Lawrenceville
Masonic Lodge No. 131
Lodge web page: <http://lv131.org>
Email: kf4tqv@charter.net
<http://webpages.charter.net/kf4tqv>



Third Sunday

W5YI VEC
3-5 p.m.
Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge
465 S. Perry St.
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
(770)-963-5721

Fourth Sunday

2:30 p.m.
Georgia Tech
VanLeer Elec. Building
Rm. W218
77 Atlantic Dr.
www.w4aql.com
Alexander G. Carver

Metro Club Meetings

First Tuesday
Kennehoochee ARC
Southern Polytechnic
State University
Meeting begins at 7:30
PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday
Georgia Tech ARC
Room W218
Van Leer Electrical
Engineering Bldg.
Georgia Tech Campus
Meeting at 7:00 PM

First Thursday
Atlanta Radio Club
Georgia Red Cross HQ
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC
Commerce Public Library
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)
PL 123.0

Second Thursday
Alford Memorial Radio Club
Annistown Road Baptist
Church
Intersection of Annistown
Rd & Spain Rd
Stone Mountain
Dinner at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Third Tuesday
North Fulton Amateur Radio
League
Masonic Lodge
194 Milton Avenue
Alpharetta, Georgia
meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Saturday
North GA QRP Club
Wieuca Baptist Church on
Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10
AM

GARS
APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME:	PHONE #			
CALL:	(To avoid errors, please PRINT legibly)			
NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED:				
CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED:				
ITEM	SIZE	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
T-SHIRT				
	Red	WITHOUT name & call		\$20.00
	White	WITHOUT name & call		\$20.00
	Red	WITH name & call		\$20.00
	White	WITH name & call		\$20.00
GOLF SHIRT -- WITHOUT name & call				
	Red		\$24.00	
	White		\$24.00	
GOLF SHIRT -- WITH name & call				
	Red		\$28.00	
	White		\$28.00	
SWEATSHIRT				
	Red	WITHOUT name & call		\$30.00
	White	WITHOUT name & call		\$30.00
	Red	WITH name & call		\$30.00
	White	WITH name & call		\$30.00
LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY				
		WITHOUT name & call		\$31.00
		WITH name & call		\$35.00
HEAVYWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY				
		WITHOUT name & call		\$41.00
		WITH name & call		\$45.00
	GARS BADGE -- WITH name & call			\$9.00
HAT -- WITHOUT name & call				
	Red		\$9.00	
	White		\$9.00	
HAT -- WITH name & call				
	Red		\$14.00	
	White		\$14.00	

TOTAL ORDER PRICE:

Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to

Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC or mail to:

GARS, P.O. Box 88, Lilburn, Georgia 30048

NOTE: Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may need to be special ordered. Thanks and 73s! -- Ralph KJ4CNC

July 2010

The Monday after 2010 Field Day!

It was great to get a good 10 hours sleep. Now comes the task of putting away all the stuff we used for field day.

I want to thank all the people that came out to operate and be a part of this operation. Without you it would not happen. The "can do" spirit of everyone that jumped in to help raise antennas, unload/load the cars, move materials, operate stations made this a success. This was the first year at this location and it seemed to fit our needs. Brian, N4TRB put some photos on facebook. There was a video made Sunday, you can see it at this link. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJ5R5MAz8z8>

Thanks for the video. If you have pictures, please email them to me, webmaster at gars.org.

All the band captains did a great job of setting up their stations for operations. The cooks, the helpers, the talk-in, the network guys, the demo guys, and the VE team that had a great turn out for a testing session. Thanks to one and all who gave their weekend up to make this a great exercise.

David, KA4KKF

Field Day Chairman 2010

You can now pay your dues online via www.GARS.org GARS accepts PayPal payments from your PayPal account, or by credit card through PayPal.



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
PO Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GARS USE ONLY

Date App Rcvd ____/____/____

Pmt Rcvd ____/____/____

Payment Amt \$ _____

Mem Appr ____/____/____

Database ____/____/____

☐ NEW MEMBER

☐ RENEWAL – Renew via PayPal at www.gars.org

Amateur Call Sign _____

License Class ☐ Novice ☐ Technician ☐ General

☐ Advanced ☐ Extra

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Email address _____

Home Telephone _____

Work Telephone _____

Cell Telephone _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____(mm/dd/yy)

ARRL Member ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Life

Interests _____

Type of Membership

- ☐ Individual \$30.00 annually
☐ Student \$15.00 annually
☐ Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65)
☐ Family ** \$35.00 annually

** Available for family members residing at the same address

Optional Contributions

Repeater Fund \$ _____

Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Additional Family Members **

Name _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____(mm/dd/yy)

License Class ☐ Technician ☐ General ☐ Extra

ARRL Member ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Life

Interests _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____(mm/dd/yy)

License Class ☐ Technician ☐ General ☐ Extra

ARRL Member ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Life

Interests _____

I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and understand that membership is subject to the approval of the Club.

Applicant Signature _____

Date ____/____/____

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Suwanee, Georgia 30024
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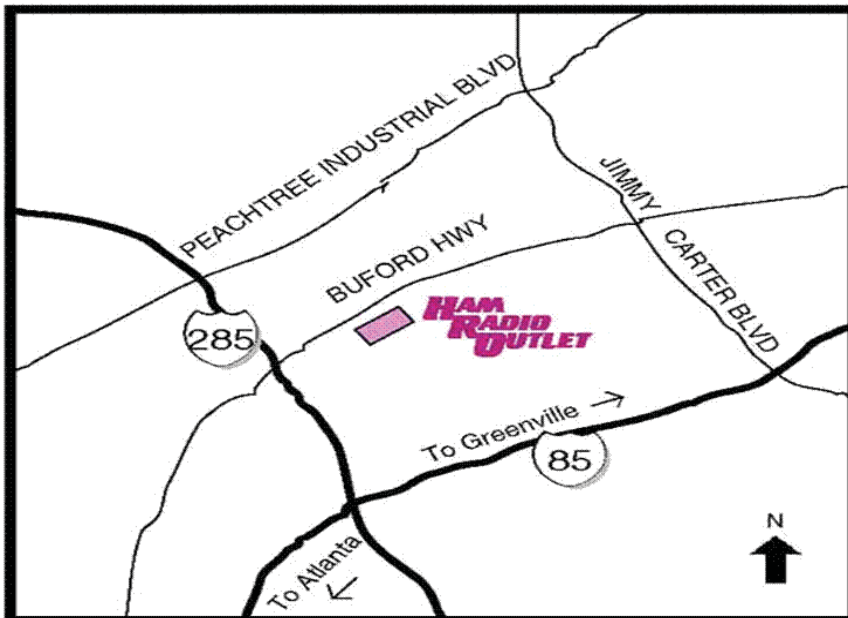
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KJ4VO

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John, KI4LMA Bill, W5RQR David, AI4XL Tom, KB4HQA
Dale, W4GCL Jim, N1ABM Josh, W4JDH Brian, WD4DX



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Hy-Gain (Telex)
KLM
Larsen
M2
Valor
Van Gorden
MFJ
Ameritron
Comet

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048



GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the **2nd Tuesday** of the month at 7 p.m. Check the [website](#) for location.

- **Every Monday** at 8 p.m.: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater.

- **Every Wednesday** at 9 p.m.: GARS 6-meter net on the GARS 6-meter repeater.

- **Every Saturday** at 7:30 a.m.: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville.

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GARS Specialist
Top Negotiator
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Helping hams with the sale and purchase of their properties takes extra time, effort and dedication. Not every agent is willing to make that commitment. Call me for when you or your friends and family are ready to make a move

References available upon request.